

A high-level monthly briefing on operations and activities at the U.S. Department of Energy's Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory – Home of Science and Engineering Solutions. Work at the lab supports the Department's business lines of environmental quality, energy resources, national security and science.

■ ENERGY RESOURCES – INEEL Receives National Recognition

The INEEL has been recognized with three separate 2002 Federal Energy and Water Management awards. The awards, presented by the Federal Interagency Energy Policy Committee and the DOE, recognize outstanding contributions toward increased energy efficiency, use of renewable energy and water conservation within the federal sector. Kathie Nell of the INEEL was cited for her energy and water conservation awareness programs, DOE-ID's Wayne Shigley's work to support installation of a solar wall was lauded, and the team Ernest Fossum, Richard Horsley, Marshall Knight and Mike Nitzel was recognized for its efforts to modify an office building to make it qualify for Energy Star status.

■ ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY – Major Cleanup Milestone Met

INEEL employees in October completed one of the most visible environmental risk reduction efforts at the 890-square-mile site – and did so more than two months ahead of schedule. The so-called 3100 m³ project required the characterization, packaging and shipment of roughly 15,000 55-gallon drums of transuranic waste out of Idaho. A settlement agreement signed with Idaho in 1995 mandated completion of the complex task by the end of December of this year. As part of a broader commitment to accelerate cleanup of the Site, INEEL employees during the week of Oct. 21 loaded the shipment that met and slightly exceeded the 3100 m³ target. In assigning credit for successful project completion, managers acknowledged not only the tireless efforts of INEEL employees, but also the support of Idaho's Congressional delegation, management at the DOE and at the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant and employees at Argonne National Laboratory-West.

■ NATIONAL SECURITY – Workshop Presented for Regional Law Enforcement Officials

INEEL Counterintelligence and the U.S. Attorney's District of Idaho Law Enforcement Coordination Committee cosponsored a workshop for regional law enforcement officials in October. An intelligence analysis expert and consultant to the departments of Energy, Defense and Justice presented a briefing on pre-incidence indicators of terrorist activities. Aimed at first responders, this briefing was intended to instruct those first on the scene of an incident to recognize actions of terrorists. Participants included the Federal Bureau of Investigation, U.S. Marshals, INEEL security forces, and police departments and sheriffs offices from Idaho, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming. INEEL Counterintelligence regularly offers briefings and seminars to employees on espionage and other intelligence issues. This briefing, however, due to its sensitive nature, was limited to law enforcement officials only.

■ SCIENCE – Idaho Research Efforts Bolstered

The INEEL's position as the nation's premier nuclear technology center has just been significantly enhanced. INEEL researchers received a record eight competitive awards for nuclear research: seven sponsored by the DOE's Nuclear Energy Research Initiative and another funded by the DOE's Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy. The awards will inject \$6 million into the INEEL's nuclear research efforts over the next three years, bolstering an array of technological advances in nuclear reactor design and the nuclear-assisted production of hydrogen as a transportation fuel. The DOE created the Nuclear Energy Research Initiative to address the principal technical and scientific challenges to the future use of nuclear energy in the United States by funding creative research ideas at the nation's science and technology institutions.

For more information, contact Ron King at 208-526-7300